

Abstract

5 In a system comprising a plurality of consumers of one or more common resources, a method of tracking usage of the one or more common resources, comprising the steps of: from each consumer, broadcasting to each of the other consumers a value indicative of an amount of the one or more resources consumed; at each of the consumers, receiving the broadcasted values from the other consumers; and in each consumer, storing a record of the total of the values that the consumer broadcasted and the values received from the other consumers.